(317) 571-2500 September 2005

# Crime Watch Coordinators and Block Captains:

Major Lee Goodman is overseeing the Operations Division. If you have any traffic complaints or concerns, please contact Major Goodman at 571-2510.

#### Mark Your Calendars

Mark your calendars for the City of Carmel Public Safety Day. This year's event will be held on Saturday, October 8<sup>th</sup> from 10am – 2pm at St Vincent Carmel Hospital (south parking lot). Car seat checks will be available from 10am – 1pm.

## **Police Explorer Program**

The department will be holding its Annual Police Explorer Open House on Wednesday, September 28, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The open house will be held in the training room at the police department. The program offers young adults the opportunity to learn about what law enforcement is really all about and to perhaps gain insight into what a career in this fascinating field would hold for them.

The program is open to interested individuals between the ages of 14 and 21. If interested in attending the Open House please contact Officer Bryan Hood or Sergeant John Towle at 571-2500. For more information regarding the Carmel Police Department Explorer Program, please visit www.carmel.in.us/CPD/police explorers.htm.

### **New Identity Theft Scam**

The following information is provided by the Criminal Investigations Division

<u>Scam</u>: Identity thieves trick the unwary into revealing their personal details by telling them they've failed to report for jury duty and warrants for their arrest are being issued.

<u>Status:</u> Real fraud, potential for financial harm unknown. Here's a new twist scammers are using to commit identity theft.

Here's how it works: The scammer calls claiming to work for the local court and claims you've failed to report for jury duty. He tells you that a warrant has been issued for your arrest. The victim will often rightly claim they never received the jury duty notification. The scammer then asks the victim for confidential information for "verification" purposes. Specifically, the scammer asks for the victim's Social Security number, birth date, and sometimes even for credit card numbers and other private information – exactly what the scammer needs to commit identity theft. So far, this jury duty scam has been reported in Michigan, Ohio, Texas, Arizona, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Oregon and Washington state. It's easy to see why this works. The victim is clearly caught off guard, and is understandably upset at the prospect of a warrant being issued for his or her arrest. So, the victim is much less likely to be vigilant about protecting their confidential information. In reality, court workers will never call you to ask for social security numbers and other private information. In fact, most courts follow up via snail mail and rarely, if ever, call prospective jurors.

#### Be Alert

Remember to call and report any suspicious activity. Non-emergency line 571-2580, Emergency Dial 911. We appreciate all the help you can give.

Questions, Comments or Concerns, Please give us a call.

Major Jim Barlow571-2527Luann Thurston571-2530Ann Gallagher571-2720